

STATE OF MARYLAND

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Shari T. Wilson, Secretary

BILL NO: HOUSE BILL 420

COMMITTEE: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

POSITION: Support

TITLE: Environment - Limitation of Actions - Political Subdivisions

BILL ANALYSIS:

The Department of Environment is presently subject to a three-year statute of limitations for civil penalty actions for violations of regulatory requirements under the Environment Article. This bill would extend, to county governments, the same three-year statute of limitations for violations of the Environment Article for: (1) violations of regulatory requirements under the Environment Article for which the county has been delegated enforcement authority by the Department; and (2) violations of environmental regulatory requirements which the Environment Article requires county governments to adopt and enforce. Currently, county governments are subject to a one-year statute of limitations.

POSITION AND RATIONALE:

The Department supports this bill. County governments should have the benefit of the same three-year statute of limitations to which the Department is subject when they are enforcing requirements under the Environment Article.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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